

Les Pagodes de Cos 2016

CSPC# 847787

750mlx6

13.0% alc./vol.

Grape Variety	50% Cabernet Sauvignon, 46.5% Merlot, 0.5% Cabernet Franc, 3% Petit Verdot
Appellation	Saint- Estèphe
Classification	2nd wine of Ch Cos d'Estournel
Website	http://www.estournel.com/en/cos/wines/#wines-pagodes-de-cos
General Info	<p>Chateau Cos d'Estournel makes a second wine , Les Pagodes de Cos, which was first produced with the 1994 vintage. Originally, the second wine was called Marbuzet. The majority of the fruit came from their vineyard called Marbuzet, hence the name. The name was changed after both properties were purchased by Michel Reybier. Today, the grapes used in the second wine, Les Pagodes de Cos can from time to time, include fruit from Marbuzet, their other estate in St. Estèphe, as well as grapes from young vines and declassified wine intended for Cos d'Estournel. Since 2005, Les Pagodes de Cos has morphed into one of the better second wines in all of Bordeaux. On average, Les Pagodes de Cos is aged in 40% new, French oak barrels.</p>
Winemaker	Jean-Guillaume Prats - winemaker
Vintage	<p>The 2016 vintage was defined by a cool and wet start to the season, followed by a very dry and rather hot summer. The winter was relatively mild. Regular and intense rainfall marked out the spring and allowed the water tables to build up their reserves. The few episodes of frost at the end of April caused no damage in the vineyard. Once again, the estuary played its essential role as a temperature regulator. Full flowering took place around 7 June. At the end of the month, the summer set in to stay, marked by very strong heat as from 15 August. The vineyard suffered but tolerated these extreme conditions thanks to the incomparable qualities of the terroir and its water reserves built up at the start of the year. Veraison started mid-August, indicating an October harvest. September was hot and sunny. The rain on 13 September relaunched the ripening cycle of the vine, slowed down by the very strong heat of summer. The 4 grape varieties reached optimal ripeness. The alternating hot days and cool nights preserved an impressive balance between freshness and aromatic power.</p>
Vineyards	<p>The vineyard of Cos spreads around the château on 91 hectares. The Cabernet Sauvignon vines (60% of the vineyard) find the soil of their choice in the thin layers of gravely soil situated on the top and on the southern slopes of the hill. On the other hand, the Merlot vines (40% of the vineyard) excel on the eastern slopes and on the slopes where the Saint- Estèphe limestone bed shows on the surface. The percentage of Cabernet and Merlot varies from one vintage to another according to the year weather conditions, benefiting successively to the one or the other. Plantation is extremely dense (8000 to 10000 vines per hectare) and the average age of the vineyard is high (35 years old on the average) in order to enable the roots to extend excessively and to obtain a very slender yield per vine that will create the "Grand Goût" Only the wines coming from over 20 years old vines will have the name of Château Cos d'Estournel.</p>
Maturation	Matured in 50% new oak
Tasting Notes	<p>With the 2016 vintage, Pagodes de Cos continues to affirm its personality while also hinting at the grander style of Cos d'Estournel. It is balanced and voluptuous, silky and seductive, a wine of enjoyment and pleasure. With refined yet complex tannins, 2016 vintage captures the essence of Pagodes de Cos, offering a great deal of promise for the future.</p>
Serve with	<p>The wines from Chateau Cos d'Estournel is best served at 17-18 degrees Celsius. As they continue to warm up in the glass, they will release their full palette of aromas and reveal their most subtle, delicate nuances. Older vintages might need very little decanting, just enough to remove the sediment. Best served with all types of classic</p>



Serve with meat dishes, veal, pork, beef, lamb, duck, game, roast chicken, roasted braised and grilled dishes.
Production 18,333 cases made.
Cellaring Drink 2020-2033

Scores/Awards **91 points** - James Molesworth, Wine Spectator - March 2019
92 points - Lisa Perrotti-Brown, Wine Advocate Interim Issue - November 2018
90-92 points - Neal Martin, Wine Advocate #230 - April 2017
94 points - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - February 2019
94-95 points - James Suckling, JamesSuckling.com - March 2017
93 points/Editor's Choice - Roger Voss, Wine Enthusiast - February 2019
93-95 points - Roger Voss, Wine Enthusiast - April 2017
17 points - Jancis Robinson, JancisRobinson.com - April 2017
92 points - Jane Anson, Decanter.com - April 2017
93 points - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - February 2019
90-92 points - Jeff Leve, thewinecellarinsider.com - April 2017
94 points - Tim Atkin, MW - timatkin.com - April 2017
15.5 points - Farr Vintner - February 2017
92-94 points - Derek Smedley, MW - April 2017
92 points - Neal Martin, Vinous - January 2019
91 points - Antonio Galloni, Vinous - January 2019
88-90 points - Antonio Galloni, Vinous - April 2017
93 points - Jeb Dunnuck MW - November 2017

Reviews *"This has good energy, with a light briar note through the mix of raspberry, plum and cherry paste flavors. Subtle chalk and iron streaks add texture and cut on the finish. Best from 2021 through 2031. 18,333 cases made."*
- JM, Wine Spectator

"The 2016 Les Pagodes de Cos is blended of 50% Cabernet Sauvignon, 46.5% Merlot, 3% Petit Verdot and 0.5% Cabernet Franc. It has a deep garnet-purple color and opens with notions of warm cassis, black cherries and smoked meats giving way to scents of charcoal, underbrush and cloves plus a waft of new leather. Medium to full-bodied, it fills the palate with generous black fruits and some compelling red fruit sparks, supported by ripe, grainy tannins and finishing long and spicy.

Rains on 13th September helped finish the ripening in 2016," winemaker Dominique Arangoits informed me. "There was a little water stress here on the young vines," he confessed. "It was very important not to overreact to the wet conditions in June, not to de-leaf too much. We have to be more careful than in the past. It was not a very early vintage, but we had to be careful with the Merlot and not to harvest too late. It was very important to keep the fruit and the energy in the wines. In the end, we didn't even need to fine the wines—this was only the second vintage for this. We started in 2015. In 2017 we will probably not need to fine either. We have our own bottling line, so we have control." Arangoits and his team nailed it in 2016. It is also important to highlight that the transformation at Cos d'Estournel since Michel Reybier purchased the chateau in 2000 is simply incredible. Reybier's considerable efforts since then in the vineyards and the winery are remarkable. What he has achieved has not only helped to bring the estate up to its true potential but also instilled a pretty impressive batting record when it comes to consistency of quality. Readers may want to check out my dedicated article on this estate, also published this issue, with a look at vintages 2000-2015."

- LPB, Wine Advocate

"The 2016 Les Pagodes de Cos is a blend of 50% Cabernet Sauvignon, 46.5% Merlot, 3% Petit Verdot and a splash of Cabernet Franc, delivering 13.02% alcohol and matured in 30% new oak. It has an intense bouquet with aromas of blackcurrant, bilberry, graphite and a touch of sea salt (just a nod to the Gironde Estuary perhaps?). The palate is medium bodied with crisp tannin, quite sleek in the mouth with plenty of black fruit tinged with graphite. It has a little more persistence compared to the 2015 Pagodes last year from barrel, very harmonious with a twist of bitter black cherry and tobacco on the finish. Very fine—drink from two or three years in bottle."

- NM, Wine Advocate

"A red with very deep and intense fruit character, yet rich tannins to back it all up. Full-bodied, layered and powerful. The second wine of Cos d'Estournel is serious again in 2016. Try from 2025."

- JS, JamesSuckling.com

- Reviews** *"The brightness and focus to this second wine of Cos are certainly impressive. You can see the quality. Full body, a tight and focused palate and beautiful fruit and density. Ultra-fine tannins. Gorgeous. Sophisticated."*
- JS, JamesSuckling.com
- "Dense and full of dark fruits, this second wine from Cos d'Estournel comes from specific parcels. With blackberry fruits and rich, generous tannins, the wine has weight and concentration. The freshness at the end is so typical of the vintage. Drink from 2023."*
- RV, Wine Enthusiast
- "The tannins are really deceptive in this wine. It is sumptuous and elegant at the same time. The black currant fruit and acidity are a foil for the powerful tannic structure. Balanced and rich in fruit, it is ready for some serious, but not too long, aging. (RV)"*
- RV, Wine Enthusiast
- "50% Cabernet Sauvignon, 46.5% Merlot, 3% Petit Verdot, 0.5% Cabernet Franc. Picked 26 September to 15 October. Fresh, muscular, racy nose. Sweet start – really rather flirtatious! Racy and elegant. But not for the long term."*
- JR, JancisRobinson.com
- "This is a serious wine representing 55% of the overall production, with the other 45% in Cos ('not one drop into a third wine or bulk' says director Aymeric de Gironde). Extremely dark black cassis fruits and graphite show the power of St-Estèphe clays. Fresh, bright and well structured (3.61pH, 65IPT), this is bristling with fruit and silky tannins, and may even close down for a few years. A blend of 50% Cabernet Sauvignon, 46.5% Merlot, 3% Petit Verdot and 0.6% Cabernet Franc from vines averaging 35 years old, aged in 30% new oak."*
- JA, Decanter.com
- "One of the best second wines in this vintage, the wine is already showing well. The deep, red fruits are ripe, pure, soft and fresh. There is an elegance to the supple wine that is ready to shine and will get even better over the next 5-7 years."*
- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com
- "Fresh, sweet black raspberries and bright red fruits are the center of this crisp, spicy wine. Produced from blending 50% Cabernet Sauvignon, 46.5% Merlot, 5% Cabernet Franc and 3% Petit Verdot, the wine reached 13.02% alcohol and represents 55% of the harvest."*
- JL, thewinecellarinsider.com
- "Just over half of the crop at Cos went into the second wine in 2016, with most of it from the same plots as usual. Subtly oaked and graceful, it's a St. Estèphe-meets-Margaux style that's a world away from what the chateau produced in 2009. Scented, poised and refined. 2022-30"*
- TA, timatkin.com
- "The second wine of Cos is now of higher quality than most vintages of the "grand vin" pre the renaissance here in 2001. Pagodes is, of course, made in the same stunning new winery as Cos itself and is very much a more approachable version of the grand vin. 50% Cabernet Sauvignon, 46.5% Merlot, 3% Petit Verdot and just a dash of Cabernet Franc this year. 55% of the total production from the Chateau will go into this wine. Spicy plums and bramble fruits on the nose. Crunchy in tannic structure with notes of graphite and cedar supporting the fresh fruits of summer pudding. Silky, easy going and approachable, this will provide good early drinking."*
- Farr Vintners
- "The cassis and cherry mix is sweet the fruit rich and fleshy supported by firm but ripe tannins. There is underlying freshness lighter at the back with rich black cherry on the finish. 2025-40"*
- Derek Smedley MW

Reviews *“The 2016 Les Pagodes de Cos is matured in 30% new oak. It has an intense bouquet for a deuxième vin, featuring blackberry, bilberry, light cedar and graphite aromas, quite Pauillac in style. The medium-bodied palate is fresh and vigorous though not deep, displaying fine tannin and exerting a gentle grip. There is a symmetry about this Les Pagodes, which is longer than other vintages, with just a hint of graphite and cracked black pepper on the finish. Excellent. 13.02% alcohol. Drink 2021-2035.”*

- NM, Vinous

“The 2016 Les Pagodes de Cos is super-expressive today. Pliant and inviting, yet also medium in body, the 2016 has much to recommend it. Grilled herb, tobacco, menthol, chocolate, licorice and black cherry are all seamless in this silky, open-knit second wine from Cos d'Estournel. The 2016 is incredibly harmonious, even in the early going. Drink 2021-2036.”

- AG, Vinous

“An attractive second wine, the 2016 Les Pagodes de Cos is built on finesse and nuance rather than power. Silky and gracious from the outset, the Pagodes is quite expressive today. In 2016, it has a bit more Cabernet Sauvignon than Merlot, yet it remains quite understated in style. Grilled herbs, smoke, leather and tobacco infuse the delicate, lilting finish in this attractive, midweight Saint-Estèphe.”

- AG, Vinous

“The second wine of the estate is no slouch. The 2016 Pagodes de Cos has some grand vin character in its cassis and graphite aromas and flavors. Showing more incense, graphite, and hints of flowers with air time, this medium to full-bodied, rounded, beautifully textured effort is well worth a case purchase. Drink this beauty, the equal to most estates' top wines, while you wait on the grand vin to come around. Drink 2019-2039.”

- Jeb Dunnuck
